



School Team Bulletin

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Please disseminate the following information to teachers.

Job Action / Bargaining Update

BCPSEA sends lockout letter to BCTF

Yesterday BCTF President Jim Iker received a letter from Michael Marchbank, Premier Christy Clark's appointed head of the BC Public School Employers' Association, in which he states that because teachers are starting rotating strikes, government intends to claw back 10% of their wages. *The pay cut will be in effect even on days when teachers are doing their full classroom duties.*

In order to justify the pay cuts, government is imposing a series of partial and full lockouts. Starting Monday, May 26, the lockout prohibits teachers from being at school more than 45 minutes before and after class time. It also forbids teachers from working during recess or lunch hour. In addition, all secondary teachers will be locked out on June 25 and 26, and both elementary and secondary teachers are to be locked out on June 27.

The lockout also means that extra-curricular activities including clubs, drama, music, and sports and graduation ceremonies could be at risk and final exams for some senior secondary students may not be marked.

BCPSEA has been sending mixed messages regarding the Lockout. *It is important for all teachers to note that the Lockout is for the employer to enforce.* Teachers will be continuing with our Stage 1 and Stage 2 Job Action as planned.

In the interim, both parties are scheduled to meet for bargaining today. Dates are also set for next week. Parents will be asking you many questions. A communication for parents will be available for distribution on picket lines Monday.

All relevant documents and information is available on the BCTF website through the Member's Portal (www.bctf.ca)

We know that this situation is stressful. This latest move is another misguided attempt by the government to try to intimidate and punish teachers for exercising our legal right to collective action. *Standing together helps keep us strong.* Thank you for what you do every day. Together we will achieve a fair deal and better support for our students.